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PRESS RELEASE

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District Man Sentenced to 44 Months in Prison On Burglary, Weapons Charges - Stole Computers, Then Posted His Picture on Victim's Facebook Page -

WASHINGTON - Rodney Knight Jr., 19, of Washington, D.C., was sentenced today to 44 months in prison on burglary and weapons charges, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced. In the burglary case, Knight not only stole the victims' computers, but later taunted them with a photograph he displayed on their own hijacked Facebook page.

Knight pled guilty in February 2011 to a charge of second-degree burglary in the break-in. In an unrelated matter, he pled guilty to a charge of carrying a pistol without a license. He was sentenced in both cases today in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. The Honorable Anthony C. Epstein sentenced Knight to 27 months of incarceration for the burglary charge and an additional 17 months in prison on the weapons offense.

Following completion of the prison terms, Knight will be on three years of supervised release.

According to a factual proffer submitted to the Court, on December 10, 2010, Knight broke into a home in Northwest Washington. He took a number of items, including two laptop computers, a winter coat and about \$400 in cash.

Shortly after burglarizing the house, Knight used one of the stolen computers to photograph himself wearing the stolen coat and displaying the stolen currency. He then used the stolen computer to post this photograph of himself on one of the victims' Facebook pages.

The weapons charge stemmed from an incident on January 2, 2011. According to the factual proffer, police saw Knight in the rear alley of the 2800 block of Dunbar Street SE. When Knight noticed the police, he clutched his waistband and began running. Police chased him and saw Knight toss a gun to the ground. The weapon, a pistol, was loaded with one round in the chamber and one in the magazine. Knight later admitted that he was carrying the weapon in a coat pocket. He has been in custody since his arrest in that case.

In announcing the sentences, U.S. Attorney Machen praised the work of Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Detective Kimberley Metivier, who tirelessly investigated the burglary. He further acknowledged the outstanding efforts of Assistant U.S. Attorney Sean M. Lewis, who investigated and prosecuted the case.

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